

## GENERAL SUBJECTS.

### FINANCIAL.

(Nos. 1 to 5.)

#### SUBJECT No. 1.

Retrenchment in the expenditure of the State by reducing the pay of officers of higher grade.

Messrs. H. Krishna Sastry, Krishnarajapete Taluk; T. M. Vankarappa, Davangere Taluk and S. Veerabhadra, Chitaldrug Taluk.

*Mr. H. Krishna Sastry.*—The measures taken by Government to give effect to the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee have not resulted in much economy as was expected. It has, on the other hand, added to the difficulties of the poor officials. During the last few years there has been an increase in the number of higher grade appointments which has absorbed a large portion of savings effected by retrenchments and also the increase in revenue. We therefore request that a graduated scale of reduction as proposed in the subject may be adopted in the cases of officers drawing high salaries. For officers getting high salary, the reduction of pay as stated above may not cause great inconvenience. Our financial condition is such that we should have recourse to such a step. The reduction of pay may, if considered necessary, be made as a temporary measure, say for a period of 8 or 10 years, till financial stability is restored. By such reduction we believe we will be able to save about 22 lakhs of rupees per annum. If retrenchments are not effected, the final result will be fresh taxation, which will cause hardship to the public. It is believed that many of the officers will agree to this proposal.

*The Dewan* asked whether the member had compared the standard of salaries in other Governments and had also considered how the efficiency of work would be affected by the proposal of the member.

*Mr. H. Krishna Sastry.*—I have compared the pay of the officers of the British Indian Provinces also. The officers are paid high salaries there, but the extent of their jurisdiction is much larger than in Mysore. Efficiency does not entirely depend upon salary given. Patriotism and love of fellow citizens should be the influencing factors in matters of this kind. There are certainly many among us who are prepared to work on lower salaries.

*The Dewan* pointed out that qualified men were going outside the State on the ground that the pay here was not sufficiently attractive.

*Mr. H. Krishna Sastry* urged that it was not all the officers who were so particular about their high rates of pay and he appealed to the Dewan and all the higher authorities of the State to make up their mind to work on reduced salaries and to set an example.

Messrs. C. Srinivasa Rao, C. Vasudeva Rao and Karnick Krishna Murthi Rao supported Mr. Krishna Sastry in this matter.

*First Member of Council.*—Officers have got to incur expenditure consistent with their status. Taking the standard of pay in British India, our officers are getting much less.

*Dewan.*—The question of retrenchment is an important subject. Government have already effected large

retrenchments in salaries, and allowances, and they are considering what further steps can be taken in the same direction. I have stated this in my opening speech also. Mr. Krishna Sastry's proposal is not practicable.

**SUBJECT No. 2.**

Introduction of the system of issuing passes to Government officials for railway journeys instead of paying them travelling allowances.

Mr. S. Virabhadrapa, Chitaldrug Taluk.

**SUBJECT No. 3.**

Remittance of pensions by money order.

Mr. Shamachan, Arkalgud Taluk.

*Mr. S. Virabhadrapa.*—Government officers are given travelling allowances for journeys which they perform by railway. In the Postal Department, passes instead of money are given to the officials who have to undertake the journey. Such a system may be introduced here also, so that officers may avail themselves of the class of accommodation for which allowances are given to them.

*Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthi Rao* supported this member.

*Dewan.*—It is not possible to accept the suggestion.

*Mr. Shamachan.*—Pensioners living in villages at a distance of 15 or 20 miles from places in which treasuries are located find it very inconvenient to go to these treasuries and receive their pension. At times they will have to spend money on account of cart-hire, etc. It is therefore requested that arrangements may be made to remit pensions to them by money order on production of life certificates obtained from a native doctor or the patel of the village.

*Dewan.*—Such an arrangement has been recently introduced in the Madras Presidency. If the system works satisfactorily there, we shall consider the question of introducing it here also.

**SUBJECT No. 4.**

Facilities for (a) the transfer of State Loan Bonds and (b) the settlement of claims of deceased holders.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthi Rao, Magadi Taluk.

*Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthi Rao.*—Endorsements by illiterate persons for transferring State Loan Bonds were being attested by Bench Magistrates. It has now to be done by Amildars. As Amildars do not always remain at headquarters, illiterate holders of bonds find great difficulty in negotiating them. If a person has to transfer a bond of small value which will give him interest amounting only to a few annas, he will have to wait for a day or more to get the attestation and will be put to unnecessary loss and expense. It is therefore prayed that power may be given to Bench Magistrates or patels to attest endorsements by illiterate persons.

Arrangements may also be made for the prompt disposal of claims of deceased holders of bonds. There are many instances in which these State Loan Bonds are sold at prices much below their face value owing to these difficulties, and this is undesirable.

*First Member of Council.*—The subject has been discussed in the Assembly on previous occasions and objections were raised to give power to Bench Magistrates or to patels. Hence the present practice.

*Dewan.*—This is an important matter and Government must protect the interests of the poor. The question of giving additional facilities will be considered. The power of attesting cannot be given to Bench Magistrates.